

This Computes!



**Department of Health Services
Children's Medical Services Network
(CMS Net) - Information Bulletin #159**

Special Instructions for Aid Codes 9R and 9N

With the implementation of the system enhancements to the CMS Net system, the claims processing systems at EDS and Delta Dental began using the eligibility information on the MEDS and HAP files to process claims for CCS-eligible children. Administratively, the CCS program uses a number of different aid codes to determine the CCS eligibility status of the child. Several of these aid codes work in conjunction with the Medi-Cal and the Healthy Family Programs. For aid codes that rely on ongoing eligibility in the other Programs, specifically 9N, 9R, and 9U (new HF aid code to be out in spring 2006) the child is only eligible for the CCS Program if they maintain concurrent eligibility with the other Program. However, currently the eligibility response for children with these aid codes indicates positive CCS Program eligibility even when there is no eligibility for the other Program. Specifically, 9N requires full scope no SOC Medi-Cal eligibility; 9R and 9U require Healthy Family eligibility.

When issuing SARs for children with these aid codes, it is essential that the special instruction option be used to advise the provider that payment is contingent on eligibility in the other Program. Failure to indicate this on the SAR gives the false impression that payment will be made from CCS-only funds if the other program's eligibility lapses. When issuing a SAR to a 9N child, special instruction message # 4 should always be used. When issuing a SAR to a HF child with a 9R (and when installed, with a 9U), message #2 should always be included on the SAR. These messages are found on the Special Instruction drop down menu.

We are working to modify the system messages returned when providers verify eligibility to reinforce this policy and eventually modify the process to send a response indicating no eligibility when only the 9N, 9R or 9U status is present, but until that happens, the warning message on the SAR is essential.

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